



Downtown Long Beach Associates
Minutes of the Capital Improvement Projects Task Force
Thursday, December 10, 2009—1:30 p.m.
DLBA Office, Executive Conference Room
100 West Broadway, Suite 120
Long Beach, CA 90802

PRESENT

Voting Members: Craig Beck, Cory Kristoff, Richard Lewis, Brian Ulaszewski

Staff: Kraig Kojian, Erin Murphy

I. CALL TO ORDER

Co-Chairs Craig Beck and Cory Kristoff called the meeting to order.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Richard Lewis made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 14, 2009, Capital Improvement Projects Task Force meeting. Beck seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed.

III. UPDATE ON FUNDED PROJECTS

Lighting

Kojian updated the Task Force on the unsuccessful efforts to partner with the Breakers building on LED lighting, façade improvements, and landscaping.

Kojian subsequently briefed the Task Force on a potential partnership with the Long Beach Area Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) and the City to improve lighting on the north side of Ocean Boulevard adjacent to City Hall, thereby increasing the experience of safety in the connection between the West Gateway and Pine Avenue.

The proposed upgrade would light up the dark planters and the heavy tree canopy, with an estimated installation date before the TED conference in February. Brian Ulaszewski mentioned the possible effect of lighting on homeless individuals who inhabit the planters as well as possible vandalism of the lights. Kojian stated that City Light and Power had arranged a demonstration for CVB and DLBA staff on November 23. Ulaszewski also expressed concern for lighting up barren planters and suggested planting succulents or using gravel patterns to increase the aesthetic appeal.

Ulaszewski made a motion to approve re-allocating \$40,000 from LED Phase II to Ocean Boulevard Lighting in concept, with a request for a demonstration of lighting alternatives and landscape improvements in lighted areas. Lewis seconded the motion. All in favor; none opposed.

Lewis suggested also expanding the lighting upgrades installed in the East Village northward.

Pine Avenue Street and Landscape Plan

Beck reported that the draft plan would be reviewed in January, and Kojian requested that the Capital Improvement Projects Task Force be involved in the review process in order to identify funding priorities to implement plan elements.

Ocean Boulevard Art

Beck updated the Task Force on *Sea Grass*, a sculpture being fabricated for installation on the Ocean Boulevard median, and locations were discussed as well as an estimated January installation date. The Task Force deferred a decision on providing the \$75,000 previously allocated by DLBA to the project until its completion.

Signage

Kojian reported that DLBA is working with the RDA to provide a local funding match for an MTA grant, with an RFP scheduled for early 2010, and introduced the consideration to increase the previously allocated funding amount of \$20,000, which was tabled pending further information.

Design Charrette and Convention and Entertainment Center Lighting

Kojian proposed un-allocating funds totaling \$20,000 from a design charrette (Ulaszewski stated had no resources to implement any designs created through the charrette) and Convention and Entertainment Center lighting (Kojian stated that upgrades had already been made).

Beck made a motion to un-allocate \$5,000 in funding for Design Charrette and \$15,000 in funding for Convention and Entertainment Center Lighting, for a total of \$20,000. Lewis seconded the motion.

Tree Planting

Kojian reported that DLBA Operations Manager Mary Coburn had worked with the City, RDA, and First and Second Council Districts to organize a community tree planting on November 21 at which approximately 100 trees were planted by 100 volunteers. Lewis inquired about maintenance, and Kojian noted that DLBA and the City would be monitoring the trees.

IV. ANNUAL PROJECT CALENDAR

The Task Force reviewed the draft annual project calendar showing funded projects and their implementation timelines. Staff was requested to add project budgets and overall Capital Improvement allocations to the calendars, as well as note completed projects at the bottom of the calendar.

Kojian shared Andreas Herr's e-mail suggestion to move back fencing on the Southeast corner of Pine Avenue and Ocean Boulevard to create more open space and also create a Southward facing mural.

Kristoff recommended that the Task Force also consider investing in decorations for the Ocean Boulevard median in 2010.

V. OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m.